

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

# PCT

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY


(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 14 MAR 2006

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Applicant's or agent's file reference RRH/CE/Unitrack		<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>		See Form PCT/PEA/416
International application No. PCT/B2004/004327		International filing date (day/month/year) 06.12.2004		Priority date (day/month/year) 06.12.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H01R25/14				
Applicant INTERPLAST CO. LIMITED				
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau a total of sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>				
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the opinion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>				
Date of submission of the demand  04.07.2005		Date of completion of this report  15.03.2006		
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016		Authorized Officer  Salojärvi, K  Telephone No. +31 70 340-		



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT  
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.  
PCT/IB2004/004327

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**Box No. I Basis of the report**

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1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
  - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
  - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements\*** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

**Description, Pages**

1-15 as originally filed

**Claims, Numbers**

1-30 as originally filed

**Drawings, Sheets**

1/12-12/12 as originally filed

- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages
  - ☐ the claims, Nos.
  - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
  - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
  - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages
  - ☐ the claims, Nos.
  - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
  - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
  - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT  
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**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

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1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	2-10,12-15,18,19,21,22
	No: Claims	1,11,16,17,20,23-30
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-30
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-30
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

**see separate sheet**

**Re Item V**

**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1 Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: FR-A-2 837 323  
D2: DE 199 32 561 A1  
D3: US-A-5 759 051  
D4: US-A-5 418 328  
D5: EP-A-0 159 556  
D6: US-B1-6 309 229  
D7: US-A-5 603 621

2 Novelty or inventive step of independent claims 1, 11, 14, 16, 17, 20-22

2.1 Claim 1

The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of independent claim 1 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

The document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document):

An electrical distribution system comprising or including an insulating track (100) for insulating an electrically conducting track (101, 102, 103) connectable to an electric power supply and being adapted to receive one or more primary electric power take off socket (400) for receiving in electrical contact therewith an electric plug when inserted therein,

wherein

the or each socket has electrical contacts (402-406 / 408-410) engageable via a push fit with a carriage (200 / 216, 217) electrically connectable to the electrically conducting track (see Fig. 9, Fig. 20) and being adapted to be

selectively positioned therealong, and locking means (221, 222) whereby the or each socket may be selectively locked in place along the electrically conductive track, thereby to position and re-position as required said the or each electric power take off socket.

The document D1 thus discloses all the features of claim 1.

**2.2 Claims 11, 14, 16, 17, 20-22**

The same reasoning applies, *mutatis mutandis*, to the subject-matter of the corresponding independent claims 11, 14, 16, 17, 20-22, which therefore are also considered not new/inventive (Article 33(2) and (3) PCT), see the cited documents.

**2.3 Consequently, as regards claims 1, 11, 14, 16, 17, 20-22, the requirements of Article 33(2) or 33(3) PCT regarding novelty or inventive step are not fulfilled.**

**3 Clarity of independent claims 23-30**

The application does not meet the requirements of Article 6 PCT, because claims 23-30 are not clear.

Claims only contain references to the description and/or the drawings. According to Rule 6.2(a) PCT, claims should not contain such references except where absolutely necessary, which is not the case here.

**4 Dependent claims 2-10,12,13,15,18,19**

Dependent claims 2-10,12,13,15,18,19 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty and/or inventive step, see documents D1-D7 cited in the search report.

**5 Industrial applicability**

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY  
(SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

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The invention relates to an electrical distribution system. Consequently, it is obvious that the invention has industrial applicability.